

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY

October 2013 – Week 2

Air Date: October 6 – October 12 (Sunday – Saturday)



TITLE: A HERO NAMED DORIS

OCTOBER 12TH 1919, AND AN UNLIKELY TEXAS HERO IS BORN.

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY, BROUGHT TO YOU BY THIS STATION AND THE SAVE TEXAS HISTORY PROGRAM OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

DECEMBER 7TH 1941. 8AM. PEARL HARBOR. ONBOARD THE BATTLESHIP WEST VIRGINIA, NAVY MESS ATTENDANT DORIE MILLER IS DOING LAUNDRY. SHIP'S BOXING CHAMPION, MILLER JOINED THE NAVY TO EARN MONEY FOR HIS FOLKS IN WACO.

SUDDENLY, AN EXPLOSION ROCKS THE SHIP. THE JAPANESE HAVE ATTACKED.

ON DECK MILLER HELPS WOUNDED SAILORS THEN MANS AN ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUN TO DEFEND HIS SHIP. HE SHOOTS UNTIL HIS AMMO RUNS OUT, DOWNING ONE PLANE.

FOR HIS HEROISM, DORIS MILLER IS THE FIRST BLACK AMERICAN TO RECEIVE THE NAVY CROSS. HE IS KILLED IN ACTION IN 1944.

DORIS MILLER, AMERICAN HERO, WAS BORN 94 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY.

LEARN MORE AT SAVETEXASHISTORY.ORG OR CALL 800-998-4GLO.

Neil Sapper, "MILLER, DORIS," *Handbook of Texas Online*

(<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fmi55>), accessed September 26, 2013. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

"Cook Third Class Doris Miller, USN," *Naval History & Heritage Command* (<http://www.history.navy.mil/faqs/faq57-4.htm>), accessed September 26, 2013. Published by the US Navy.

"Doris Miller," *Wikipedia* (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Doris_Miller), accessed September 26, 2013.

TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE

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